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THE

Life and Death

OF

Mother Shipton :

Giving a wonderful Account of Her Strange and Monstrous Birth, Life, Actions and Death, with the correspondence she had with an Evil Spirit; the many Pranks she play'd; the Power she had to Convey her self through the Air, raise Storms and Tempests; foretel Things to come; with all her Prophecies that have come to pass, from the Reign of Henry VII. In whose time, she was Born near *Dropping-Well* in *Yorkshire*, to this present Year 1694. Containing the most Important Passages of State, during the Reign of these Kings and Queens of *England* following, viz.

Henry the VIII.

Edward the VI.

Queen Mary.

Queen Elizabeth.

King James the I.

King Charles the I.

King Charles the II.

King James the II.

King WILLIAM.

And

Queen MARY.

Whom God long Preserve.

With divers not yet come to pass; Foretelling or Pointing at the downfal and humbling the Greatness of the present *French* King, with the Happiness, Prosperity and Welfare of these Kingdoms, under Their Majesties Prosperous and Successful Reigns, with the Explanation of each Prophecy and Prediction.

London, Printed for J. Back, at the *Black-Boy* on the middle of *London-Bridge*, 1694.

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P R E F A C E
T O T H E
R E A D E R.

W O N D E R not, that We now present you with a Book of this Nature, when the Fame of *Mather Shipton* has been long known all over the Three Kingdoms; but considering the former Accounts have been very small and imperfect, We have thought it necessary to be at the pains, to give you the fullest and best Character of so Remarkable a Woman, that ever has yet appeared in Print, with a Catalogue of all Her Prophecies, and their Explanations; from the Reign of *Henry VII.* to this present Year 1694. which have, and are yet to come to pass, very Curious and Admirable; insomuch, that they have been Noted and Admired for their Veracity, by the most Learned Men of the Age; what she points at, having generally, as far as is yet known, come to pass, but to sum up all, We recommend it as a Book very useful and delightful; and therefore, doubt not its Acceptance in the World.



T H E

(1)

The LIFE and DEATH of MOTHER SHIPTON.

CHAP. I.

What her Father and Mother were, and what Wonderful things happened at her Birth, as also the place of Her Nativity.

In the Second Year of King Henry the Seventh, which was in the Year of our Lord One thousand Four hundred Eighty and six; there lived a Woman called Agatha Shipton, at a place called Naseborough near the Dropping-Well in York-shire. She came of poor Parentage, who dyed and left her to live for her self, at the Age of fifteen. After their decease, she still Inhabited in the Old House; but being now deprived of those helps she formerly enjoyed, conducible to a liberty-hood, she was constrained to seek Relief from the Parish; which she did, but with so much regret and grief, that she seemed in her begging, rather to command Alms, than in an humble manner to desire it. At length she arrived to that pass, that she was upon the matter starving, rather than she would be beholding to the Charity of any.

The Devil looking on her Poverty to be great, and knowing her evil inclinations by her complexion (for you must understand, that the Devil is a great Scholar, well read in all things, and much acquainted with the constitutions of all sorts of persons) I say, perceiving that she was willing to accept of any proposition to change her condition: He one time as she was sitting melancholy under a Tree by a River side, accosted her in the form of a very handsome young man, well apparel'd, with all things suitable to a youthful garb. Pretty Maid, (quoth he) why dost thou sit so sad? Thy age is too slender for thy head to be troubled with cares of the World: come tell me what is the matter, and if it lie within my power to assist thee (as I am sure it doth) thou shalt not want a Friend of mine.

Agatha casting up her eyes, and there seeing a face so lovely, could not suspect a Devil hid in that comely shape; whereupon in a fainorable tone she express'd all that troubled her, informing him of her great wants, and that knowing not how to work, she could not provide what

her necessaries required: *Fiſh* (ſaid the *Devil*) this is nothing, he ruled by me, and all ſhall be well; ſhe told him ſhe would, hereupon he ordered her to meet him at the ſame place the next day, and he would bring ſome friends along with him, for he told her he reſolved to marry her; ſhe promiſed him ſhe would, and accordingly they met. He came riding upon a ſtately Horſe, with a Pillion behind for his Spouſe, attended by a great many Gallants (as they appeared) well mounted, and in a Noble Equipage.

His Devilſhips attendants ſoon conbered his Miſtris behind him, as ſhe imagined; not in the leaſt doubting the reality of what ſhe ſaw.

They needed neither ſwiftch nor ſpur to haſten them forward, the Jades were ſery enough of themſelves, and ran with that ſwiftnes that the wind could not overtake them in their full ſpeed; ſoon they arrived at their Journeys end, where ſeemed to be a very ſtately Houſe, with a great pair of Gates, which at their approach opened by a Porter with his ſtick, in his Liberty-gown: Alighting, ſhe went in, where ſhe ſaw a great many ſervants, which ſeemed at the ſight of her and their Maſter, to ſhew much reſpect and obeiſance.

Now did the *Devil* command rich Garments to be brought, which ſhe was immediately cloathed with, and being thus richly attired, ſhe was uſhered into a great Hall, where was a long Table furniſhed with all the Varieties the whole World could afford; at the upper end of which Table ſhe was placed, next her the Friend her intended Husband; all the reſt of the Gueſts did place themſelves as they thought fit. As they had the choiceſt cheere, ſo had they the beſt of Wines, and ſweeteſt Muſick.

Dinner being ended, they fell to Dancing; and now could my lecherous *Devil* ſtay no longer, but he muſt needs waſh a Corant with his Miſtris into another private Room, and there courted her to Luſt; the ſimple Girl contented, and ſo they both went to Bed together, with the Ceremonies of Marriage. His touches (as ſhe confeſſed to the Midwife that delivered her of her Devilish Off-ſpring) were as cold as Ice, or Snow. After they had lain a little while together, he told her what he was, and what ſhe muſt do hereafter, if ſhe intended to liſe happy and delightful days. Firſt, he told her that he was no Mortal, but a Spirit immaterial, and not burdened by a body, nor hindered by any material thing; ſo that I can when I pleaſe pierce through the Earth and ransack its Treasures, and bring what precious things I pleaſe from thence to beſtow on thoſe that ſerve me. I know all rare Arts and Sciences, and can teach them to whom I pleaſe. I can diſturb the

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Element, stir up Thunder and Lightnings, destroy the best of things which were created for the use of Man, and can appear in what shape or form I please. It will be too long to describe my power, or tell thee what I can do; but will only tell thee what thou shalt do. That being done, I will give thee power to raise Hail, Tempests, with Lightning and Thunder; the Winds shall be at thy command, and shall bear thee whither thou art willing to go, though never so far off, and shall bring thee back again when thou hast a mind to return. The hidden treasures of the Earth shall be at thy dispose and pleasure, and nothing shall be wanting to compleat thy happiness here. Thou shalt moreover, heal or kill whom thou pleasest; destroy or preserve either Man or Beast; know what is past, and assuredly tell what is to come. Here note by the way, the Devil is a Year from the beginning, and will promise more by ten millions, than he knows he is capable to perform, to the intent he may insnare and damn a Soul.

This poor ignorant wretch easily believed what this grand Deceiver of Mankind told her; and being ravish'd with the thoughts of being so highly prefer'd, she condescended to all the Devil would have her do: whereupon he bid her say after him, in this manner: Raziel ellimiam iranimish ziragia Psonthonphanchia Raphael elhaveruna tapinotambecaz miraphecat jarid cumam hapheah Gabriel Heydouturris Iugeonis philoanmostarkes sopheoord hankim. After she had repeated these words after him, he pluckt her by the Gown, and there immediately grew a kind of Tree, which he instantly suckt, telling her that must be his constant Custom with her morning and evening; now did he bid her say after him again, Kameiz-atuph Odel Pharez Tumbagin all Flemmegen Victow Denmarkeonto, having finisht his last bellish speech, which the chiefest of his Opinions understand not, out of which none but the Devil himself can pick out the meaning; I say, it thundred bozzidly, that every clap seemed as if the vaulted roof of Heaven had crackt and was rubling down on her head; and withal that stately Palace which she thought she had been in, vanish in a trice; so did her sumptuous apparel: and now her eyes being opened, she found her self in a dark doleful Wood; a place which from the Creation, had scarce ever enjoyed the benefit of one single Sun-Beam. Whilst she was thinking what course to steer in order to her return, two flaming fiery Dragons appear'd before her tyed to a Chariot, and as she was consulting with her self what was best to be done, she insensibly was hurried to it, and with speed unimaginably convey'd through the Air to her poor Cottage.

CHAP. II.

How the Devil constantly visited her, in what Forms and Shapes; what strange things she did to those that offended her, harming some, and making sport with others; and at length brought to Bed of a Child, which is commonly called, Mother Shipton.

BEing come home, the Neighbours flock'd about her, having mist her two or three days, secretly suspecting some mischief had befallen her; but when they beheld her face they were all amazed, to see such a strange alteration in her countenance, in so short a time; and here the Proverb was verified in her: She lookt as if a Hagg had rid her. Before she met with this wanton Devil, she lookt plump and fresh; which were all the good qualities she had in her ill featured face; but now that red plumpness banisht, and there was nothing to be seen but a pale shriebeled skin on her cheek, which for want of flesh seemed to fall in her mouth, to be deboured by her hunger-starved jaws. Those about her which were charitable minded, pittied her, comforted and gave her Monys, which with a great deal of disdain and scorn she threwo them, saying, she wanted not, nor stood in need of their Alms; for took ye here (said she) is Mony enough, plucking her hand out of her Pocket, the People drawing near her, discovered that what was in her hands was nothing else but some Aspin-leaves: and notwithstanding, they endeavoured to perswade her that she was mistaken in supposing that to be Mony, yet would she not believe them; so strong a Power the Devil had gotten over her already.

In fine, she did bid them all be gone, for now she began to take little delight in humane Society: it was not long that they had left her, before the Devil (with whom she had made a Hellish Contract) came in to see her, in the same handsome young form as he first appeared unto her, telling her that he came to supply the company of those she had wisely dismiss'd, that she needed not the Society of humane creatures, for he would not fail to be constantly with her; always bringing with him what should not only serve for a bare Libertyhood, but her Delight, Pleasure, and Satisfaction? Whereupon by the Devils Command, there instantly appeared seemingly, a compleat noise of Musick, with Pipes of Hear, great variety of the choicest and most pleasing sort: which so ravished Agatha, that she fell to the ground in a very profound and deep trance. One of her Neighbours coming in this while, wondered to

see Agatha lying on the floor motionless; however out of pity and commiseration, she kneeled down, and having crost her self, and said a short Prayer, she endeavoured to waken Agatha, but using what means she could, it all signified nothing; she shook and pincht her, and pulled her by the Nose, yet still she lay insensible: This Neighbouring-woman being strangely amazed and scared hereat, ran out among the rest of her Neighbours, crying out that poor Agatha Shipton was suddenly struck dead, and so desired them to go into the house with her, and they should there be the Eye-witnesses of the truth thereof; whereupon several went and found what this Woman had said; to be seemingly true: but one wiser then the rest stooped down and perceiving that she breathed, spake aloud, Friends, ye are all mistaken, Agatha is not dead, but in a Trance, or else she is bewitched: she had scarce uttered these words before Agatha began to stir; and soon after, raised her self on her Leggs, crying out in a very distracted tone, What make ye here, kisse wozettes? Cannot I enjoy my pleasures; but ye must be Chese-dropping? get ye gone, as having nothing to do here; and hereupon she fell a Dancing, which they wondered at, because they could here no Musick. At length Agatha turning about, and seeing they were not gone? said, if ye are resolved thus to disturb me, and will not go, I will make ye; this some thing affrighted them, for they now verily believed she was a Witch; and as they were hastning away with all imaginable speed, a sudden strong Wind hoisted them a great height into the Air, falling all to the ground again without the least harm, only some shame to the Women, for they descended with their Heads downwards, their Coats over their Ears, their lower parts appearing all naked to the astonished Spectators; the Men were seen like overgrown Goats, with large horns on their heads, and Women riding on their backs, which sights as they produced inexpressible wonder, so amidst their amazement, they could not but burst out into excessive laughter.

This wonderful and unexpected exploit, was instantly noised all about the Countrey, which occasioned a great resort of People to the place where Agatha lived; which so perplexed her by their undesired visits, that she resolved within her self to be revenged on some of them; which by the Devils help she effected; mischiefing some in their persons, others in their Cattel, and others in their Credits; one had a Horse that dyed suddenly, and being opened, there was found in his Stomach Fish-bones, and Hair, instead of Hay and Oats. Another go-

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ing to sit down at Table with Persons of good quality at dinner-time, and thinking himself very spruce and fine, had in an instant his Ruffe pull'd off, and the seat of an House of Office clapt on in its place, he that sate next him breaking out into a great laughter at the sight thereof, was served little better; for his Hat was invisibly conveied away, and a Pan of a Close-stool which stood in the next Room, put on instead thereof; A modest young Gentlewoman which did sit at the Table at that time, on no other errand but to see this young Witch which was so much talked of; looking on these two worthy spectacles of laughter, endeavouring all she could to refrain laughing, but could not, and withal continued sitting for above a quarter of an hour; this made them all laugh so extremely that the Master of the House was alarm'd (below) therewith, and being desirous to share with his Guests in their Sport, came running up stairs as fast as his legs would carry him, about to enter the dooz, he could not, and no wonder, since the oldest man living, never saw a larger pair of horns then he had on his Head: Whilst they were gazing one on another as more then half distracted, they were all reduced to the same condition they were in before; after which there followed a noise, as if an hundred persons were laughing together, but nothing at all was seen.

These persons fearing something worse might befall them if they staid any longer, made all the hast they could to be gone: Agatha knowing their intent, resolv'd to take her farewell of them, by serving them one trick more, which was thus; as they were about to mount on Horseback, they were pelted with rotten Apples, Dung, and stuff that smelt worse than can be imagined. As they rid through the Town, such men as thought they rid singly, were all observed to have behind them a deformed old Woman; and as their Faces differ'd all one from another, so did their habits, which were all tatter'd and ragged, and patcht with a hundred colours, fear, shame, and the hooting of the People, made them put spurs to their Horses, neither did they forbear the switch, nor any thing that may add speed to their Horses heels, so that it may be said, they rather flew then rode; how could it be otherwise? For needs must he go whom the Devil drives.

Coming home, they declare what wonderful things they had seen performed, though by a young one, yet as they believed the greatest Witch in the World: this news being so generally spread, came at length to the ear of the Justices, who now thought it high time to question and bring into examination a person that was so much talked of, and might, if let alone, do greater mischief.

CHAP.



CHAP. III.

How **G**atha Shipton was Apprehended and brought before a Justice, what her Confession was, her Mirtimus being made to be sent to Prison; how she escaped by the help of her Friend, the Fiend; she is retaken, and being found with Child, is Bail'd.

A Gatha is now no longer suspected but plainly known to be a Witch, doing something or other daily which is very remarkable; she hath been frequently observed to walk alone muttering to her self, and having been watcht by some, they have seen her stamp upon the ground thrice, then wound her hands over her head: lastly, she spake one word thrice, and in the twinkling of an eye, the sky hath been dark and gloomy, though clear before, which belcht out nothing for half an hour but flames, & burning after a most hideous manner.

But now the time draws on, wherein she must give an account for what she hath done, and in order thereunto, she is apprehended by two resolute Fellows, who were not a whit daunted when they entered the house, though Loads, Madders, and such-like noisome Creatures crawled up and down the house, but could not chuse but be much startled when they seiz'd her, and were carrying her, to hear such a terrible Crack of Thunder, the house at that time reeling too and fro like a Tzadle.

However they carried her before the Justice, where being brought, she was strictly examined by him; she not a jot daunted, told him that she had more Authority then he, and that notwithstanding his power, she could command one that could over-rule him when he list; that she was a Princess, and could have at her beck a Thousand Spirits of the Air, and as many of the Earth and Water, that she could raise a Tempest presently, that should overturn his house about his Ears; and that you may know, it lies not in your power to detain me, three words shall procure my liberty: hereupon she said, Updraxi, call Scygicon Helluox, she had not scarce uttered the last word, before there came in a horrid winged Dragon, which immediately took her up, and carried her away from the amazed Justice and Attendants about him, half dead with fear.

This so affrighted all that heard of it, that none would undertake to meddle with her more; so that she had a considerable time of respite. But she now began to be more admiz'd than before, being discovered by the great swelling of her Belly, to be with Child: The people could not tell what to think, or who should be the Father, concluding that none would be so vile and wicked, as to have Copulation with a Devil incarnate; neither could they believe a Spirit had either desire or power, to generate with any humane Creature; while people were generally passing their verdicts on Agatha, she was once more taken and brought before a Justice, and amongst other questions, was asked, whether she was with Child, she acknowledged it; nay further, that it was begot by no Mortal Might: The Justice gave no Credit to what she said, as looking on her as an ignorant seduced Woman; and to ask her what Bail she could produce, intending to defer the business till she was delivered; in this very nick of time, two Gentlemen as they appeared by their habits, voluntarily proffered themselves, which as soon as accepted for Bail, banish't presently, however Agatha had permission to go home.

C H A P. IV.

What kind of shape Mother Shipton had when she was Born: How she was put to Nurse at the charge of the Parish; and what strange things were seen in that House where she was Nurst, during the time of Four years.

The usual time of Forty weeks being expired, her Mother, after many strange and horrible Torments which she underwent in her Travail, was at last Delivered (by the rare Skill and Industry of her Midwife, and others of that Sex) of her which is now called, Mother Shipton, which proved the conclusion of her miserable Life. But her entry into the World was such a terror to all that beheld her, that several credible persons then present, have several times confessed that they never beheld the like: Such strange and horrible Moises, that the Persons concern'd about her, could scarce find so much Courage in themselves as to continue in the place where she was, much less when they beheld the strange and unparallel'd Physiognomy of the Child, which was so misshapen, that it is altogether impossible to express it fully in words, or the most ingenious to Limn her in colours, though many Persons of eminent qualifications in that Art have often attempted it, but without any success; and therefore according to the best observations of her, take this true, though not full account of her features, and body: she was of an indifferent height, but very morose and big bon'd her head very long, with very great goggling, but sharp and fiery Eyes, her Nose of an incredible and unproportionable length, having in it many crooks and turnings, adorned with many strange Pimples of divers colours, as Red, Blew, and White, which like Vapours of Brimstone gave such a lustre to her affrighted Spectators in the dead time of the Night, that one of them confessed several times in my hearing, that her Nurse needed no other light to assist her in the performance of her Duty: Her Cheeks were of a black swarthy complexion, much like a mixture of black and yellow Jaundies, wrinkled, scabbed, and very hollow; insomuch, that as the Ribs of her Body, so the impression of her Teeth were easily to be discerned, through both sides of her Face, answering one side to the other, like the notches in a Galley, excepting only two of them which stood quite out of her Mouth.

in imitation of the Tusks of a wild Bore, or the Toots of an Elephant, a thing so strange in an Infant, that no age can parallel: Her Chin was of the same Complexion as her Face, turning us towards her mouth, squeaks being heard from an unknown cause, as if there had been a more than an ordinary correspondence between her Teeth and it.

Her Neck so strangely distorted, that her right shoulder was forced to be a suppofter to her head, it being propt up by the help of her Chin, in such sort, that the right side of her Body stood much lower than the left; like the reeling of a Ship that sails with a side wind. Again, her left side was quite turned the contrary way, as if her Body had been screw'd together piece after piece, and not rightly placed: her left shoulder hanging just perpendicular to her Fundament.

Her Leggs very crooked and misshapen: The Toes of her feet looking towards her left side; so that it was very hard for any person (could she have stood up) to guess which road she intended to clear her course; because she never could look that way she resolved to go.

After she had remained under the care of her Nurse, for the space of a Month or thereabouts, her Mother being unable to provide for her, she was put out to Nurse at the charge of the Parish, to a poor Woman hard by in the Town, where she continued for the space of half a year or thereabouts, the house not being any waies disturbed at all, till at last her Nurse having been abroad amongst some of the chief of the Parishoners, either to procure something of their Charity for her subsistence, and the maintainance of her Family, or else to fetch her money from the Overseers of the Poor, for Nursing the Child; and returning home to her House, she found her doozs unbar'd and wide open, where-at she much-amazed and affrighted, ran to her next Neighbour, and acquainted her that she was quite undone, for her house was broken open and robbed, the man immediately riseth from his Dinner, carrying his bread and Cheese in his hand, accompanied with his wife and another labouring man; approaching the dooz, endeavoured to enter, but before they could all get quite in, there was immediately a very strange noise heard in the next Room to them, as if it had been a consort of Cats, which so affrighted them, that they all run towards the dooz endeavouring to get out again, but it was in vain; for at their approach there were great long poaks about their Necks, in the form of a Cross, or turned stile; so that they could not possibly return.

return; and while they were thus striding and crying out for help, their poaks at last fell off, and a couple-staff, or Streeters-sting laid upon the mens shoulders; upon which an old woman presented her self naked, sometimes hanging by the Heels, sometimes by the Toes, anon by the Middle; with divers other postures, they continuing for the space of half an hour, in such sort, that the poore men were never more tired in clearing of Leggs, nor less pleased at any thing than in being constrained to humour this piece of bellish activity.

After they had got a discharge from this their new employment, the house now being quiet and they a little recovered their senses, and missing the women, they ran further into the house, where at last they found them lying flat upon their Bellies, their cloaths being turned backwards over their heads, two great black Cats were playing Hocus Pocus upon their posteriors, which the men in vain attempted to drive away, untill at last their own slavery procured the womens freedom from that employment, though they changed not much for the better, for as they were coming out of that Room, in the next there stood a pair of Partingles, made in the form of a Cross, upon which two men use to put great skains of Harn, that so they may wind it off with more ease and less trouble: these being placed in the middle of the Room, the two men and two women were forced to take the four ends thereof in their hands, and so dance round about the Room one after another, untill such time as they were almost tired to death, carrying upon every one of their shoulders an Imp in the likeness of a Monkey or Ape, which hung close upon them; and when ever they slackned their pace, these Spirits pricked them forward, continuing this recreation for a very considerable time; and being cloy'd with this kind of diversion, they vanished quite out of sight, leaving these poore wretches as weary as astonished. (notwithstanding) no sooner perceived themselves at liberty, but they presently quitted the house, and soon after addressed themselves to several of the Neighbourhood, acquainting them with what had happened, which caused great amazement amongst them, and immediately the whole Town was in an uprore; and the Spinster and several of the most eminent Inhabitantes, consulted together what the occasion thereof should be, and what to do in the business, some of them threatening the informer; others thinking they were distracted: but at last they resolved to go to the House; yet when they came near, there arose a great dispute amongst them who should first enter, which

at last was agreed upon, and the Parson (with his Congregation attending him in the Kear;) gave them the first onset, and entering the dooz quivering and shaking, they heard the Nurse-Child cry in a most hideous and doleful manner; whereupon there was suddenly a noise like the treading of People upon Stones, though the House in any place had no other than an earthen Floor; at which the Child ceased, and a very sweet Musical Harmony of several Notes was heard, and all presently banished again: after which the Minister and Inhabitants entering, and searching the House, and at length missing the Child, one of them looking up the Chimney, saw the Cradle wonderfully hanging about three yards high without and support; which being as strangely conveyed down again: they encouraged the Nurse, and leaving her in the House (though affrighted) they departed for the present.

C H A P. V.

How Mother Shipton whilst but very young at Nurse, was daily visited by Spirits, in divers Shapes and Forms; and what pranks they play'd during her abode there.

MOther Shipton now grew apace, and as her stature encreased, so did her deformity: Her supposed Father (the foul Fiend) omitted not a day wherein he visited not the House where she was, sometimes visibly in the form of a Cat, Dog, Rat, or Hog; at other times invisibly by noises so terrible, as it so affrighted the Nurse, that he oftentimes resolved to deliver up her charge, and forsake her habitation; sometimes, he came in a pleasant humour, either singing or playing on an Instrument, which was usually a Scotch Bag-pipe.

Her Nurse sometimes was in great perplexity, not knowing what was become of her, for an whole day together; but when she was in her greatest search after her, she saw her oftentimes drop through the Roof of the House: Going out, upon her return, she many times found her Child stretcht out to a Prodigious length, taller than the tallest living, and at other times as much decreast or shorned, The poor Womans work for the Majoꝝ part, was only to rectifie what these Spirits disordered about her House; the Chairs and Stools would frequently march up Stairs and down, and they usually plaid below at Bowls with

with the Trenchers and Dishes: Going to Dinner, the Meat was removed before she could touch a bit of it, which things, as they much troubled the Purse, so they gave much satisfaction to Mother Shipton; as it appeared by her monstrous Smiles: Now and then to pacifie her Purse when she saw her much vext herat, she would say, be contented, there is nothing here will harm you.

To be short, the Purse was so continually terrified by these apparitions, that she resolved to complain to the Parish; and having made known the truth of what had past, in commiseration to the Woman almost Distracted, they removed Mother Shipton to another place, where she was put to School, being of an Age now fitting for it.

C H A P. VI.

How Mother Shipton was put to School, Learning more in a day, then other Children in a Month: How she was Jeared by her School-fellows, for having such a Monstrous long Nose: and what prancks she plaid upon them, by way of Revenge: growing now very Famous,

Mother Shipton was now grown a lusty Girl; and as she was left to the care of the Parish, so the Parish took care that she should have the common sort of Learning; that is to say, Reading and Writing bestowed upon her. Coming to School, her Mistress began to instruct her, as other Children, beginning with the Cric-cross-rote as they call'd it, showing and naming only three or four Letters at first, but to the amazement and astonishment of her Mistress; she exactly pronounced every Letter in the Alphabet without Teaching. Hereupon her Mistress shewed her a Primer, which she Read as well at first sight, as any in the School, and so proceeded in any Book was shewn her.

As this produced wonder in her School-Mistress, so hatred and envy in her Comrades; some flouted her for her monstrous long Nose, others endeavoured to beat her, and all strove to mischief her; but she valued them not, rebelling her self upon every one of them, that intended her harm. Some were pinch'd and no hand seen that did it; others were struck speechless when they were about to say their Lessons, not being able to utter a word; and none escaped from being scolded one

scourge

curby trick, or other. This so enraged the Parents of these Children, looking on Mocher Shipton the sole cause hereof; that he was discharged the School, and so left to the wide world.

She hath been often seen when alone, to laugh heartily; at other times to talk by her self, uttering very strange riddles, which occasioned some of the more sober sort to converse with her, receiving such strange things from her, as required a long study to find out the meaning.

After a day passed, wherein she related not something very remarkable, and required the most serious consideration. And now it was that People flocked to her far and near, (her fame was so great) to be resolved of their doubts, all returning wonderfully satisfied in the Resolution of their questions.

CHAP. VII.

How several persons came to Mocher Shipton, for her Predictions; and how a Rich Heire being deceived by her Maid, fell sick of Grief, and dyed.

AND now Mocher Shipton beginning to grow famous in the world, for her notable Judgment in things to come: There resorted to her House a Number of People, of all sorts, both old and young, rich and poor; Especially, of the Female Sex, viz. Young Maids and Maenches, who had alwaies a great itching desire to know when they shall be married; as also, what manner of Husbands they shall have; to which she gave such satisfactory answers, both for the Persons and time, that no longer could a young Maid get into the Teens, but she would presently trot to Mocher Shiptons, to be resolved of her doubt. Now, though she were not mercenary her self, but refused great Gifts, when proffered unto her; yet did she keep a young Maenche, who rather than fail, if they sought to open their purse to her, she would remember to open her mouth to them, and tell them, that her dame Shipton, noz she, could not be maintained with thanks; but that the belly required meer to feed it and that it was money which made the Ware to go. One day there came a certain young Heir thither, whose Father was sick, to be resolved by her, whether he should live or

dye; but Mother Shipton, could by no means be wrought upon to tell him any thing; whereupon he proffered the said great store of money, if she could by any means persuade her dame, to fulfil his request; the wench greedy of money, promised him fair; and that if he would come the next morning, he should be certain to be resolved; in the mean time, she importuned her dame with the most cunning flatteries that she could invent, but she was deaf to all intreaties, and would by no means be induced thereto, whereupon the wench resolved with her self, rather than to loose the money, to give him an answer of her own intention; which the next morning she performed in these words.

The Grave prepared hath a Room,

Prepare for Death, thy hour is Come.

The young Gentleman having received this answer, went home sorrowfully, hoping presently to reap the Golden Crop which his Father had sown, and to be in an instant, possessed of all his vast estate. but the sequel proved quite contrary; for by that time he came home, great hopes of amendment appeared in his Father, who each day grew better and better, so that in a short time he became perfectly well. This unexpected recovery of the old man, struck such a dump in our young Heir, that he presently took his Bed, fell extream sick, and in a short time grew extraordinary ill, that all the Symptoms of a dying man appeared in him: The old man, who had carped and saved all his life time for his Son, (having no more Children but he) was very desirous of his life, and to know whether he should recover; whereupon he sent to Mother Shipton about the same; who knowing by her Art, what her Maid had done, sufficiently did chide her for the same: threatening upon such another offence, to turn her out of her service. In the mean time, the Messenger was come to her House, who having delivered his errand, was turned back with this answer.

For others Deaths who do gape out,

Their own unlook't for, comes about:

Earth he did seek, e're long shall have

Of Earth his fill, within his Grave.

The old man having received this answer, was much troubled, as thinking his own Death predicted thereby, not imagining in the least, what his Son had done; but he was soon quit of that suspicion, for within two daies the young man died; when by a Servant (who knew the passages) he was informed the truth of the whole matter.

C H A P. VIII.

Mother Shipton's Prophecies concerning King Henry the Eighth's Journey into France; of Cardinal Wolsey, and other things.

ABOUT this time, some differences arising betwixt King Henry the Eighth; and the French King; great preparations of War were made in England, the Drums beating in every County, to summon Voluntary Valour to express it self, in Defence of their King and Country, many Heroick Spirits, who made Honour their Aime, not dreading any dangers for the attaining thereof, now Listed themselves Bellona's followers: so many appearing under Mars his Banner, that he who was furnished with Limbs and an Estate, to decline the Service was adjudged a Coward. There was then Living in the North, a young Peir, who was newly come to his Estate, one whose Tongue was all Fire, and his Heart all Ire, who would kill Thousands with words, but durst not adventure to do any thing in deeds. This Gallant being by some of his Equals, picked on to make his appearance in the Fields of Mars, and not to lye Sleeping at home when Fame summoned him forth to Action, he knew not what to do in this case; loath was he to loose his loved Life, and yet the aspersion of a Coward, though to a Coward himself, is of all things most odious; He therefore promised them fair; that none should be more willing then he, to spend his Blood in the quarrel of that Country, from whence he received his dearest Life; but yet resolved with himself, not to set one step forward in that path of danger, till he had first consulted with Mother Shipton, concerning what success he should have in his journey; if bad, he was resolved by a feigned sickness to evade, thinking it no Policy for a Man to part away with that Life in an instant, which with great cost and care, had been many years in bringing up.

Hereupon he hastens to our Northern Prophetess, acquaints her with his condition; and very earnestly desires of her (as she to whom nothing was unbid) that she would unfold to him whether good, or bad fortune should be his attendant, in this his expedition. Mother Shipton though she perceived his Sheepless Courage to be every way answerable to that of a Soldier, yet foreknowing what would come to pass, returned him this answer; which without more ado, fully satisfied

enabled him to proceed, and perform what he had promised; the answer was this.

When the English Lyon shall set his paw on the Gallique shore, then shall the Lillies begin to drop for fear: There shall be much weeping and wailing amongst the Ladies of that Country; because the Princely Eagle shall joyn with the Lyon, to tread down all that shall oppose them: and though many Sagitaries shall appear in defence of the Lillies, yet shall they not prevail; because the dull Animal of the North shall put them to confusion; and though it be against his will, yet shall cause great shame unto them. Nor shall the Spurred Peacock first begin to Plume, whose Train shall make a great show in the World for a time; but shall afterwards vanish away, and his great Honour come to nothing; which shall take its end at Kingston.

The Explanation of the Prophecy.

By the English Lyon was meant the King of England; and by setting his Paw on the Gallique Shore, the Landing of his Army in France, which not long after he did; by the Lillies beginning to drop for fear, was signified the great trouble and perplexity of the French, the Lillies being the Arms of France; the weeping and wailing amongst the Ladies of that Country, denotes the miseries and destructions incident to War, the Sword, Famine, Destruction and Desolation being inseparable Companions; by the Princely Eagle joyning with the Lyon, and treading down all that should oppose them, is meant Maximilian the German Emperor (whose Arms were the Eagle) who not only joyned in Amity with King Henry, but also took wages of him, and served him in his Wars as an hired Soldier; by the Sagitaries that appeared in defence of the Lillies, was meant the French Cavalry, the chief strength of France, consisting of Horse-men, who appearing like Sagitaries, that is to say, half Men, and half Horses, gave Mother Shipton to use that expression, whereas it is said, yet they should not prevail, it fell out so accordingly; for notwithstanding all the oppositions of the French Armies King Henry proceeded on vigorously, Conquering and taking several Towns of importance, as Tournay, Bulloign, &c. But to come to that which most nearly concerns the matter, viz. the success of our young Heir, in this expedition, which was hindered forth unto him in these words, because the dull Animal of the North shall

shall put them to Confusion; and though it be against his will, yet shall cause great shame unto them: by the dull Animal of the North, was meant this fresh water Souldier, who according to the Prophecy, put the Frenchmen to confusion, and great shame, for passing the Seas with King Henry, being mounted on a stately Horse, as both Armies confronted each other, he being in the Head of the Battle, just before the Charge, somebody striking his Horse, the Jade carried him by force upon the Enemy, with such violence, as put their Front into some disorder, which being perceived by our Men, they presently scorned him, that in fine, the French were fairly ran away, leaving the English a glorious Victory, purchased with a little cost.

By this means was Mother Shiptons Prediction fulfilled to the disgrace of the French, and great praise of the young Gallant; for the rest of the Prophecy, the Interpretation thereof runs thus.

By the Mitred Peacock was intended Cardinal Wolsey, signified by that Bird, because of his great Pride, who being but a poor Butlers Son of Ipswich in Suffolk, grew to such height, that he thought himself superiour to the chief Nobles of the Land, living in such splendour as not to be paralleled, according to the Prophecy: Whose Train shall make a great show in the World; and whereas it is said, the Peacock shall then begin to Plume, so it was, that when King Henry had taken the City of Tournay in France, he made Wolsey Bishop thereof: who soon after rose to the highest degree of Honour a Subject could be capable of, which afterwards (as the Prophecy says) vanished away, and his great Honour come to nothing: And lastly, whereas it is said, he should have his end at Kingstone, the Cardinal being told of this Prophecy, would never pass through the Town of Kingstone, though lying directly in the Road, from his own House to the Court, but afterwards being Arrested of High Treason, by the Earl of Northumberland and Sir Anthony Kingstone the Lieutenant of the Tower, sent unto him his very Name (remembering this Prophecy) which struck such a terror to his Heart, that he soon after expired.

CHAP. IX.

Her Prophecy to the Abbot of Beverly, concerning the downfall of
Abbs, Punneries, Priories, &c. with other things.

Mother Shiptons Predictions coming thus effectually to pass, spread
her Fame far wider than it was; insomuch, that many who be-
fore looked upon her as a crackt-brain'd woman, now began to admire
her, and to esteem of her words as Oracles. And as the nature of Eng-
lish People is, rather to desire to know what is to come, than to seek to
rectifie what is done amiss; so the greater part of her bishants, came
only to be resolved of what she knew, would come to pass, of which
number was the Abbot of Beverly, who fearing the downfall of Reli-
gious Houses, and a change of Religion then professed, putting on the
counterfeit Cloaths of a Lay-person, he came to Mother Shiptons,
and knocking at the dooz, she being within, called to him, and said, come
in Mr. Abbot, for you are not so much disguised, but the Fox may be
seen through the Sheeps skin; it is not these Cloaths makes you a
Lay-person, no more then a Long-Cotton, makes a Man a Lawyer;
come, take a Stool and sit down, for you shall not go away unsatisfied
of what you desire, and thereupon he began to utter forth her Prophe-
cies in this sort.

When the Cow doth ride the Bull,
Then Priest beware thy Scull.
And when the lower Shrubs do fall,
The great Trees quickly follow shall.
The Mitred Peacocks lofty pride,
Shall to his Master be a Guide.
And one great Court to pass shall bring,
What was neer done by any King.
The Poor shall Grieve to see that Day,
And who did Feast, must Fast and Pray,
Eate so Decreed their Overthrow,
Riches brought Pride, and Pride brought Wo.

These Prophecies were thus explained; by the Cow was meant
King Henry, who gave the same, by reason of the Earldom of Rich-

mond,

mond, which was his Inheritance: and the Bull betokeneth Mrs. Anne Bulloign, whom the King took to Wife, in the Room of Queen Katharine, her Father gave the Black Bulls head in his Cognizance, and was his Beast; and when the King had married Queen Anne, then was fulfilled the second line of the Prophecy, viz. Then Priest beware thy Scull; for what a number of Priests Religious and Secular, lost their heads for offending of those Ladies made to bring this matter to pass.

And when the Lower Shrubs do fall,
The great Trees quickly follow shall.
The Mitr'd Peacocks lofty pride,
Shall to his Master be a Guide.

Cardinal Wolsey (who is here intended by the Mitr'd Peacock) in the height of his Pride, and hastiness of his undertaking, intending to erect two fair Colleges, one at Ipswich where he was Born, the other at Oxford where he was Bred; and finding himself unable to endow them at his own Charges; he obtained Licence of Pope Clement the Seventh, Anno 1525, to suppress forty small Monasteries in England, and to lay their old Lands to his new Foundations, which was done accordingly; and the poor People that lived in them; turned out of doors, many of the Clergy were very much against this action of Wolseys, especially John Fisher Bishop of Rochester, alleging for the same an Apology out of Æsop, that the Iron Head of the Axe, craved a handle of the Wood of Oaks, only to cut off the seere boughs of the Tree; but when it was a compleat instrumental Axe, it felled all the Wood: applying it, That the Suppressing of those smaller Houses, would in fine, prove destructive to all the rest; which came to pass accordingly; for King Henry seeing the Cardinals power to extend so far as to suppress these lower Shrubs, he thought his prerogative might stretch so far, as to sell down the Great Trees; and soon after dissolved the Priory of Christ's Church nigh Aldgate in London, now known by the name of Dukes-place, and which was the richest in Lands and Ornaments of all the Pories in London or Middlesex; and which was a fore-runner of the Dissolution of all the rest; and which not long after came to pass.

And one great Court to pass shall bring,
What was ne're done by any King.

By the Great Court, is meant the Parliament, the Supreamest Court of England; who in the Twenty seventh of King Henrys Reign, Anno 1539. To support the Kings States, and supply his wants, conferred on the Crown, all Religious Houses, which were not able clearly to expend above two hundred pounds a year; the great ones not long after following the same fortune of the smaller, which was never done (though attempted) by any King before.

The Poor shall Grieve to see that day.

The Abbots and Priors being most bountiful House-keepers, relieving all comers and goers, got themselves much reputation for their Hospitality.

And who did Feast, must Fast and Pray.

By the Dissolution of these Houses, many thousands were driven to seek their Fortunes in the wide World, and become utterly exposed to want, when Monkish profession was without possession; many a young Nun proved an old Beggar, and were forced to fast for want of Mithridates, who formerly had it provided for them to their hand.

Fate so Decreed their overthrow,

Riches brought Pride, and Pride brought woe.

The great Riches and pride of the Monks and Fryers was (no doubt) the main cause of their overthrow; for whatsoever was the pretence, questionless profit was the Rope which pulled these Religious Houses down.

All these things coming to pass before such time as this Abbot dyed, caused him to have a great esteem of Mother Shipton, and to value her Prophecies more then ordinary conjectures; though at the first, he could not tell what to make of her Ambiguous Lines, which like the Oracles formerly delibered at Delphos: rather brought one into a Labyrinth of confused conjectures then satisfied the expectation, until by the Clue of time, the Middles were manifest; and that which at first seemed so hard, now appeared to the understanding; as easie; Whereby he at present kindly thanked Mother Shipton, and literally rewarded her (who else would have put him in mind of his neglect) much admiring that she should be so clear-sighted, as to see through his counterfeit Wyses; resolving afterwards to be more informed by her, concerning future events; he at that time took his solemn leave of her, and returned home.

C H A P. X.

Her Prophecies concerning King Edward the Sixth: The Rebellion of the Commons: The Death of the Duke of Somerset, with other things.

Not long had the Abbot been at home, but his Abby was visited by some Instruments employed by the Lord Cromwel for that purpose. He who knew what was intended by this Complement, thought it not safe to strike against the Stream, and therefore quietly surrendered his Monastery into the Kings hands. And now perceiving Mother Shiptons Prophecy plainly fulfilled, in the downfall of those Houses, which were judged Impregnable, against all the assaults and Malice, and time; Considering the strange Revolutions of so short a space: he was very desirous to be more fully informed of the future. In this Resolution he repairs again to Mother Shipton, whom he now accosts more familiarly than he did before, making himself plainly known unto her; telling her that as what she had formerly spoken, he had found to be true in the event; so his Judgment perswaded him, she was not ignorant of those things which were for the future to ensue, and therefore desired her she would not be nice in imparting of this her fore-knowledge unto him; for which so great labour, though it were more than his deserts could command, yet should there never in him be wanting a grateful tongue to acknowledge, and a grateful heart to be thankful unto her, for so great a Favour.

M^r. Abbot (said she) leave of Complementing, as more fit for Courtiers, and Lovers, and not agreeable to an old Woman, who will neither flatter, nor be flattered by any; and for what you come about, I shall not be squeamish to fulfil your request, let me therefore desire you, to lend your attention, and thereupon (after some short pause) she thus began.

A Prince that never shall be Born,
Shall make the Shaved Heads forlorn,
Then shall Commons rise in Arms,
And Womens Malice cause much harms.
O deadly Pride! O hateful Strife!
Brothers to seek each others Life.

Ambiti-

Ambition shall so deadly spread,
The Giffen fierce shall loose his Head.
Soon after shall the Lyon dye,
And Mildness usher Cruelty.

These ten lines being Prophecies of the Actions in King Edwards Reign, for the Readers benefit, (before we proceed any further in her Predictions) we will unfold the meaning of them by themselves, that we may not too much burthen their Memory; but by variety add a pleasure to the Reading of them.

A Prince that never shall be born,
Shall make the Shaved Heads forlorn.

By the Prince that never shall be born, is meant King Edward the Sixth, of whom all reports do constantly run, that he was not by Natural Passage delivered into the World, but that his Mothers Womb was opened for his Birth, that she dyed of the Incision the fourth day following; and by the Shaved Heads, is understood the Monks, Fryers, &c. who are said to be become forlorn: the Reformation beginning with the beginning of King Edwards Reign: and the Popes Priests put down, as his Supremacy was before.

Then shall Commons rise in Arms.

King Edward having set out certain Injunctions for the Reformation of Religion, as the Commissioners passed to divers places for the establishing of them, many scorn were cast upon them, and the farther they went from London, the People were more uncivil, so did they more rise into insolency and contempt; for in Cornwall, the Commons Roused together, having killed one of the Commissioners, and albeit Justice was done to the offenders, the principal of them being Executed in several places, yet could not their boldness be beaten down with their severity, but that the mischief spread farther in Wiltshire, and Somersetshire, where the People supposing that a Common-wealth could not stand without Commons beat down Inclosures, and laid Parks, and Fields Champion. The like Commotions followed in Sussex, Hamp-shire, Kent, Gloucester-shire, Warwick-shire, Essex, Hartford-shire, Leicester-shire, Worcester-shire, and Rutland-shire; but the greatest of all was in Devon-shire, and Norfolk: the one headed by Henry Arundel Esquire, Governour of the Mount in Cornwall, the other by Robert Ket a Tanner of Windham in Norfolk: Those of Devon-shire, were accounted above ten thousand, who

who with a close and smart Siege, Surrounded the City of Exeter, which they brought to extream misery, having a potent Foe abroad, and Famine sorely raging within; insomuch, as they were fain to bake Bran and Meal moulded up in Cloathes, for otherwise it would not stick together; at last the Rebels were routed from thence, by the Lord Privy Seal, with the loss of a Thousand of their Number; and soon after totally routed, at a place called Clift-heath. These of Norfolk, were judged to be more dangerous; both because their strength was great, being estimated to be above Twenty Thousand; as also the City of Norwich was a friend unto them, or at least wished them no harm: This rude rout encamped on Monshold-hill, a place Impregnable in some sort, being near to Norwich; against whom was sent the Marquess of Northampton, and afterwards the Earl of Warwick, who made many Gallies upon the Rebels with various success; had the Rebels kept in this Fort, they might have tired out the Earl, his Horse being useless against them; but they relying on an old prophecy, came down into Daffin Dale and quitted the Fort: the words of the prophecy were these.

The Country Knuffs, Hod, Dic, and Pic,

With clubs, and clouted Shone,

Shall fill up Daffin-Dale with Blood,

Of slaughtered bodies soon.

Which they Interpreted to be their Enemies Bodies, though it proved of their own; for the Earl setting upon them, after a stout resistance, they were overcome, two thousand slain upon the place; Ret with his Brother and nine others Executed, the rest taken unto Percy.

And Womens Malice cause much harms.

Lamentable was the effects occasioned by the malice of two Women in this Kings Reign, which that you may the better understand, we shall declare the Original grounds thereof. The King had two Uncles, Brothers to Queen Jane his deceased Mother, Edward Duke of Somerset, Lord Protector, &c. and Thomas Lord Seymour Baron of Sudly, High Admiral of England: The Lord Sudly, had taken to Wife Katharine Parr, Queen Dowager, last Wife to King Henry the Eighth. The Duke had married the Lady Ann Stanhope, a Woman for many Imperfections intollerable; This Woman did bare such invincible hate, first against the Queen Dowager for light-causes, and Womens

quat-

quarrels; especially, for that she had Precedency of place before her; that albeit, the Queen Dowager dyed by Child-birth, yet would not her Malice either dye, or decrease, but hated the Lord Sudly, for her sake; and left buzzing fears and jealousies in her Husbands Ears, (who was of an easie belief) that within few days the Lord Sudly was Arrested and sent to the Tower, and in a very short time after Condemned by Act of Parliament; and within few days after his Condemnation, a Warrant was sent, under the hand of his Brother the Duke, whereby his Head was delivered to the Axe; which verified to that was before predicted.

O deadly Pride! O hateful Strife!
Brothers to seek each others Life.

Wives! the most sweetest Poison, the most desired Evil in the World! certainly, as it is true, as Syracides saith, that there is no Malice to the Malice of a Woman: so no Wise-man wanted where a Malicious Woman breathes; a Woman was first given to man for a Comforter, but not for a Counceller, much less a Controuler and Director; and therefore, in the first Sentence against Man, the cause is express, Because thou obeyest the voice of thy Wife. And doubtless the Protector, by being thus ruled to the Death of his Brother, seemed with his left hand to have cut off his right; for hereby he left himself now unguarded from the Malice of his Enemies, the Earl of Warwick, &c. who being ambitious of ingrossing all power into his own hands, soon wrought the confusion of the Duke, as it follows in the Prophecy.

Ambition shall so deadly spread,
The Griffin fierce shall lose his Head.

For the Earl of Warwick espousing opportunity, shewing himself, and knowing that in troublesome times, the obedience of great Persons is most easily shaken, drew about righteigh of the Privy-Council to unite with him against the Lord Protector: These he did to wind up his purpose, that they withdrew from the Court, fell to private Consultations, and so ordered the matter, that at length they brought the Protector upon the Scaffold, where in time he had his Head cut off, figured here by the *Griffin*.

Soon after that the Lion dyed,
And Mildness tamer Cruelty.

By the Lyon is meant King Edward, who surchased his Uncle the Duke of Somerset, not above two years grief for his death (as it is generally

The Life and Death of Mother Shipton.

generally conceived) bringing him into a Consumption, though some have reported him to be poisoned; soon after his death spate and Pe-
 rery was reborn again by Queen Mary, for which cause many after-
 wards trode in the flames, verifying the last verse.
 And Mildness Usher Cruelty.

CHAP. XI.

Her Prophecies concerning the Death of the Lady Jane Grey; the
 Burning of the Martyrs; of ~~Marys~~ Rebellion; the Death of
 Queen Mary; and of Cardinal ~~Paul~~.

BY Parents too Ambitious Pride,
 The Scaffold shall with Blood be dy'd.
 A Vertuous Lady then shall dye,
 For being raised up too high;
 Her Death shall cause anothers Joy,
 Who will the Kingdom much annoy.
 Miters shall rise, Miters come down,
 And streams of Blood shall Smithfield drown.
 England shall joyn in League with Spain,
 Which some to hinder strive in vain.
 The Lyons from Life retires,
 And Potifical Priek expires.

This Prophecy is peculiarly applied to the Reign of Queen Mary,
 and may be interpreted after this manner.

By Parents too Ambitious Pride,
 The Scaffold shall with blood be dy'd.

This is meant by the Lady Jane Grey daughter to the Duke of Sur-
 folk, who having married the Lord Gilford Dudley, son to the Duke of
 Northumberland, the ambition of Northumberland was so great, that
 he practised much on King Edwards tender years, who now was much
 weakened with sickness, that excluded his two sisters, the Lady Mary,
 and Lady Elizabeth, he conveyed the Crown to the Lady Jane, by that
 which we may call the Testament of King Edward, and the Will of
 the Duke of Northumberland. But the Commons taking part with
 the

the Lady Mary, notwithstanding, the Duke took with great Joy against her, and his Doubtless differing him, he was forced to talk about, and with an unwilling mind Precisely her Queen, whom in his Heart he hated above all others.

A Vertuous Lady then shall dye,

For being raised up too high.

The Lady Jane Grey, who out of dutifullness to her Parents, assuming the Title of Queen upon her, for her offence, lost her Head: This Lady Jane was a Woman of most rare and incomparable perfections; for besides her excellent beauty, adorned with all variety of Vertues, as a clear Sky with Stars, as a princely Wisdom with Jewels; she was the mirror of her time; for her Religion and Education in the knowledge of the Liberal Sciences, and skill in Languages, for in Theology, in Philosophy, in all the Liberal Arts, in the Latine and Greek Tongues, and in the vulgar Languages of others near Nations, she far exceeded all of her Sex; and every one of her years.

Her Death shall cause another joy,

Who will the Kingdom much annoy.

The Death of the Lady Jane was supposed to be a rejoicing to Queen Mary, and who by restoring Popery, and the Persecutions that the Professors of the Gospel suffered in her time, is said to bring the Kingdom to annoy.

Miters shall miserably come down,

And streams of blood shall smilfully drown.

By the Spiders are meant the Bishops, who in the Change of Religion found great Change: very few of them keeping their Seats wherein they had been seated by King Edward the Sixth, the Names of the Bishops thus put down, were these, Cranmer Arch-Bishop of Canterbury, Ridley Bishop of London, Roydon Bishop of Winchester, Holgate Arch-Bishop of York, Bull Bishop of Bristol, Bird Bishop of Chester, Hooper Bishop of Worcester and Gloucester, Barlo Bishop of Bath and Wells, Scory Bishop of Chichester, Ferrar Bishop of St. Davids, Coverdale Bishop of Exeter, Taylor Bishop of Lincoln, and Harley Bishop of Hereford; in the room of these Bishops thus put down, several Bishops were raised, as Cardinal Pool made Arch-Bishop of Canterbury, Bonner Bishop of London, Gardiner Bishop of Winchester, Heath Arch-Bishop of York, Holeman Bishop of Bristol, Gotes Bishop of Chester, Brook Bishop of Gloucester, Pates Bishop of Worcester, Bourn Bi-

close shut, and well fortified against him, with Men and Ammunition, his hopes then began to fail him; retreating to Temple-bar, he was faced with some Horse, where after a short Fight, he submitted himself Prisoner, being first carried to White-Hall to be examined, from thence to the Tower, and soon after to the Scaffold, where he received the rewards of his Rebellion.

The Lyons from Life retires,
And Pontifical Priest Expires.

By the Lyons is meant Queen Mary, who having Reigned five years and some odd months, dyed of a Dropsie, though others say of Grief for the absence of her Husband King Philip, and others again, for Calice (taken not long before) and that she could say if after she was dead they ripped her up, they would find Calice written on her Heart.

The Pontifical Priest signified Cardinal Pool, who expired within few hours after the Death of Queen Mary. This prelate was of princely extraction, his Mother Margaret being Daughter to George Duke of Clarence; when he was young he was brought up together with Queen Mary, and being a zealous Catholic during King Edwards Reign, suffered a voluntary exile for the same; when the Marriage with Prince Philip and Queen Mary was made up, he returned into England, was made Arch-Bishop of Canterbury, more moderate than some other of his fellows Bishops, having a labourable inclination towards the Protestants: He surbided the Queen but few hours, and was buried in his own Cathedral at Canterbury, with this short and modest Epitaph on his Monument, DEPOSITUM CARDINALIS POLI.

C H A P. XL

Her Prophecies concerning the Reign of Queen Elizabeth; the change of Religion; the attempts of the Papists, upon the Queen; the Spanish Invasion; the burning of Pauls-Steeple; the Death of the Queen of Scots; the reducing-Ireland; the beheading the Earl of Essex, &c.

The Lyon fierce being dead and gone,
A Maiden Queen shall Reign anon.

The Life and Death of Mother Shipton.

Those who sighed, then shall sing,
 And the Bells shall Changes Ring.
 The Papal power shall bear no sway,
 Homes trash shall hence be swept away.
 The Locusts sent from the seven Hills,
 The English Rose shall seek to kill.
 The Western ~~Spaniards~~ Wooden Horses,
 Shall be destroyed by the ~~Drakes~~ Forces.
 Trop nobent's Triumphant Spire,
 Shall be consum'd with Flames of Fire.
 More wonders yet! a Widowed Queen,
 In England shall be headless seen.
 The Harp shall give a better sound,
 An Earl without a Head be found.
 Soon after shall the English Rose,
 Unto a Male her place dispose.

These lines being a Prophecy of the most remarkable Actions, during
 the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, are to be interpreted after this manner.

The Lyon fierce being Dead and gone,
 A Maiden Queen shall Reign anon.

Queen Mary is here meant by the fierce Lyon; so called, not so
 much for the Cruelty done by Her, as by the Bishops and Priests was
 done under her; for take her in her self, secluded from bloody Coun-
 sellors, and she was a most Merciful, Pious, Just Princess; but in re-
 spect of the blood that was shed, and the Persecutions then suffered,
 She is here termed a fierce Lyon: After whom is said, A Maiden Queen
 to Reign anon, meant by Queen Elizabeth, one who was the Mirrour
 of her Sex and Age, who for above forty years, to the admiration of en-
 vy it self, managed the affairs of this Kingdom; having when she
 began, few Friends that durst help, and leaving no foes when she died
 that could hurt her; acted her part here so well whilst here she Reigned;
 that History can scarcely afford us one Prince to be matched to her Fame,
 in all considerable particulars.

Those who sighed then shall sing,
 And the Bells shall Changes Ring.

Many tobo late and slyed in the days of Queen Mary by reason of the hot Persecution, being forced to forsake their Houses, because they would not forsake their Religion; now that Queen Elizabeth began to Reigne, their mourning was turn'd into joy, their sighing into singing; returning from their exile, with Psalms of Thanksgiving in their mouths: where their Bells rang such Changes in Religion, that the Mass was put down, and the Common-Prayer set up: Popery banished and Reformation established; the Ministers of the Gospel advanced, and the Schabelling Priests, Monks, and Fryers, depressed.

The Papal power shall bear no sway;
Womans trash shall hence be swept away.

Soon after the Queens coming to the Crown, a Parliament began at Westminster, wherein the Laws of King Henry the Eighth, against the See of Rome were renewed, and those of King Edward the Sixth, in favour of the Protestants revived, and the Laws by Queen Mary made against them, repealed: Uniformity of Prayer, and Administration of Sacraments was enacted, with a Constitution of first Fruits and Tenths to the Crown; and the Queen acknowledged to be the only and Supream Governour of her Kingdoms: The people in each place beating down Superstitious Pictures and Images, which blind and misguided zeal had set up.

The Locusts sent from the Seven Hill,
The English Rose shall seek to Kill.

By the Locusts are meant the Priests, Fryers and Jesuits; who spread all the world over in greater numbers than the Locust did in the Land of Egypt; and by the seven Hills is meant Rome; which is built upon seven Hills; and by the English Rose is signified Queen Elizabeth, whom the Priests and Jesuits by their Instruments did often attempt to kill; so that if we seriously consider her Reigne, we shall scarcely find any Prince, whose Life was so often attempted as hers, of which to give you some examples would not be impertinent to our purpose, and first in her Sisters Reigne; Stephen Gardiner Bishop of Winchester, and other Romanists, offended with her Religion, so wrought with Queen Mary, suggesting that she was consenting to Wyats insurrection, that she was sent Prisoner to the Tower, and (as it is said) a Mar-
rant

rant intended to be sealed for her Execution, had not King Philip interceded. After she came to the Crown she was as incident to troubles as the Spanish Aprils to showers, Spain, France, and Scotland, combining against her. Pope Pius Quintus by his Bull deposes her, in prosecution whereof the Earls of Northumberland and Westmoreland rise up in Rebellion, being to have been assisted by the Duke D'Alva out of the Low-Countries, but out of these troubles she was delivered by their Confusion. After these Leonard Dakers, second Son to William Lord Dakers of Gellelland, endeavoured to bring her into trouble, being intrusted by her with competent Forces, which he intending to have employed to her detriment, failed in his hopes and power; and brought both shame and ruine to himself. Next did Thomas and Edward Stanley, younger Sons to the Earl of Darby, with several others plot against her; all which ended in their Ruine and her safety. These failing, Captain Stukley promised to perform wonders against her, but his Mountains proved not so much as Mole-hills, he being slain in Barberry, his design failed. But to speak of personal attempts against her, one Somerville drew his Sword in the Court to have slain her, Doctor Parry a Spaniolized Italian intended to have pickled her as she walked in the privy Garden: Savage, Windsor, Salisbury, Tilney, and others, Conspired to kill her, the which they waited several times to effect: one William Stafford, by the instigation of the French Ambassadoz, undertook to kill her: Doctor Laper one of her sworn Physicians, for a sum of Money, engaged to Poison her: and to conclude all, one Edward Squire formerly belonging to her Stable, with a mortiferous confection Poisoned the Pommel of her Saddle, when she was riding out; From all which notwithstanding, though she were maliciously Poisoned, she was miraculously preserved, and dyed in peace; maugre all the Malice of her Enemies.

*The Western Monarchs Wooden Horses,
Shall be destroy'd by the Drakes Forces.*

By the Western Monarchs Wooden Horses, is meant the King of Spains great Armado, in the year 1588, by them termed *Invincible*, though the success of it answered not the Name, being by Sir Francis Drake and others, brave Sons of Neptune, and Souldiers of Mars, met withal, fought with, and really banquish't, most of them sunk, and

and the rest destitute and scatter'd, being Chased by our Ships past the 57 degree of Northern Latitude, and there left to be pursued by hunger and cold, a victoꝝ so remarkable, that time, noꝝ age, will ever wear the remembrance thereof away.

Troy novant's Triumphant Spire,
Shall be consum'd in Flames of Fire.

By Troy novant is meant London, which in ancient writings is called Troy novant; and the Triumphant Spire, signifies Pauls-steeple, which in the year 1561 the fourth of June, strangely fell on Fire, burning for the space of five full hours, in which time it melted all the Lead off the Church, only the Stone Arches escaping the fury thereof; sundꝝ causes were attributed by sundꝝ persons of this Fire; some that it was casually blasted with Lightning; others that it was mischievously done by Art Magick; and others (which was most likely) done by the negligence of a Plummer carelessly leaving his coals there in. The Queen was much grieved for this mischance, but by her bounty, the Cities liberality, and a contribution from the Clergy, it was afterwards repaired, only the blunt Tower had not the top thereof sharpened into a Spire as before.

More Wonders yet! a Widowed Queen,
In England shall be Headless seen.

The Widowed Queen signifies the Queen of Scots, the Mother of King James, who was Beheaded at Fotheringhay-Castle, some say by the pꝛibie, others to the great discontent of Queen Elizabeth: A Lady of a sharp Wit, undaunted Spirit, comely Person, Beautiful Face, Majestick presence, a fluent Orator, and an excellent Poet, as may appear by several things now extant, amongst others of her Merits, this was one, which she wrote with a pointed Diamond in a window, during her Impꝛisonment in Fotheringhay-Castle.

From the top of all my Trust,
Misshap hath laid me in the Dust.

She was Beheaded the ---- day of ---- Anno 1587, and was first Buried in the Quire of Peterborough, afterwards by her Son King James, solemnly removed from thence to Westminster, where in the South-side of the Chappel of King Henry the Seventh, he erected a stately Monument to her Memoꝝ.

The Harp shall give a better Sound.

The Harp signifies Ireland, as being the Armes of that Country, which Queen Elizabeth by reducing to a better obedience, made it give a better Sound, that is, made it more civilized, and profitable to the Exchequer then ever before.

An Earl without a Head be found,

This was spoken of the Earl of Essex, one who was the favourite of the Queen, and darling of the people; two things which seldome come together, and yet could not both of them protect him from the scaffold, but that thereon he lost his Head.

Soon after shall the English Rose,
Unto a Male her place Dispose.

By the English Rose is meant Queen Elizabeth, as we said before; by whose Death, the Right and Title to the Crown, came to James the Sixth, King of Scotland, as lineally descended from Margaret the Eldest Daughter to King Henry the Seventh; the Issue Male failing by the Death of Queen Elizabeth; and here is to be remembered, the Policy of King Henry the Seventh, who having two Daughters, married the eldest of them to the King of Scotland, and the Youngest to the King of France, that if his issue Male should happen to fail (as it afterwards did) then Scotland might wait upon England as the greater Kingdom, and not England upon France as the lesser: besides there was an old Prophecy, which intimated King James's coming to the English Crown; for when King Edward the First invaded Scotland, amongst other things, he brought from thence their Royal Chair, (still preserved at the Abby in Westminster) upon which Chair these Verses were writ.

If Fates go right, where e're this Chair is Pight,
The Regal Race of Scots shall Rule the Place.

Which by the Coronation of King James there performed, made good the words of the Prophecy.

CHAP. XL

The Prophecies of the Reign of King James, his Uniting England and Scotland, his Peaceable Reign, a Learned time, the Powder-Treason, the Marriage with the Prince Elector, and Lady Elizabeth; the Death of Prince Henry.

THe Northern Lyon over Tweed,
The Maiden Queen shall then succeed,
And joyn in one two Mighty States,
Janus then shall shut his Gates.
Wars shall yield to Mercury,
All things tend to Prosperity.
Hells power by a fatal Blow,
Shall seek the Land to overthrow.
Which by mistake shall be revert,
And Heads from Shoulders be dispers't.
The British Olive next shall twine
In Marriage with the German Vine.
The Ninth to Death his power shall yield,
Death Conquers all, he wins the Field.

Next follows the remarkable actions of King James's Reign, predicted in the foregoing lines, which may be thus explained.

The Northern Lyon over Tweed,
The Maiden Queen shall then succeed,
And joyn in one, two Mighty States.

By the Northern Lyon, is meant King James; and by the Maiden Queen, Queen Elizabeth, whom King James, being King of Scotland succeeded in the English Crown, joyned thereby the two Nations of England and Scotland, which had been often attempted before, not only by Conquest, but by Marriage; once by Conquest, by King Edward the First, who subdued their Armies, took their strong places, and made their Nobles yield him obedience; yet what they thus lost by him, they recovered of his Son King Edward the Second; the

the order of Marriage, was by King Henry the Eighth, who endeavoured to have matched his Son, Prince Edward, with the Heiress of Scotland, and had proceeded very far therein, when Death cut him off; and though afterwards attempted by the Duke of Somerset, Lord Protector, and the Scots beaten at Musselborough-field, yet all would not prevail; God having decreed their union to be afterwards, in a more peaceable manner.

Janus then shall shut his Gates,

Janus was one of the Gods belonging to the ancient Romans; whose Temple was never shut but in the days of Peace, which happened not above twice, in the space of two Thousands years: King James's Reign being a very peaceable time, when Swords rusted in their Sheaths for want of using them; Mother Shipton in her Prophecy alludes thereto.

Wars shall yield to Mercury,
All things tend to prosperity.

War shall give place to Peace, Fighting to Pleading, the Sword to the Gown, the Pike to the Pen, Barbarism to Learning, &c. this Peace shall cause Plenty, Plenty work Prosperity, &c.

Hells power by a fatal Blow,
Shall seek the Land to overthrow.
Which by mistake shall be revers'd,
And Heads from Shoulders be dispers'd.

These Lines have reference to the horrid Powder-Plot, which was to have been acted by some desperate Papists, to have blown up the Parliament House with Gun-powder, and therein our Religion, Laws, King, Prince, Peers, Bishops, Judges, Knights, and Burgesses, all designed to Destruction: The chief actors herein were, Robert Catesby, Thomas Percy, Sir Everard Digby, Francis Thresham, Robert Winter, Thomas Winter, John Wright, Chris. Wright, Ambrose Bookwood, Robert Key, John Graunt, Guido Fauz, and Bates Catesbies man, Gentlemen most of Ancient Families, some of plentiful Fortunes, but all of resolute Spirits: These being suggested by the Devil, and seconded by his Agents, the Jesuits, to bring their purpose about,

about, hired a Vault under the Parliament-House wherein they stowed Thirty six Barrells of powder, with several Iron-Bars, to make the force of the Fire more effectual, all which they covered with Billets, thinking thereby to have covered their Design from being discovered: On the Fifth of November, the day of the Parliaments first sitting, was the time appointed, to put their Design in Execution; but providence had ordered it otherwise, that those who intended mischief, should taste the effects of it; on the Evening before, came to the Lord Montague a strange Letter, from a strange hand, by a strange Messenger; without Date to it, or Name at it, and (to outward appearance) sence in it? A Letter which when it was opened, was even still sealed, such the affected obscurity therein: The Letter contained these words,

My Lord,

Out of the Love I bear to some of your Friends, I have a care of your Preservation; therefore I would advice you, as you tender your Life, to devise some excuse to shift off your attendance at this Parliament: For God and Man have concurred to punish the wickedness of this time. And think not slightly of this Advertisement, but retire your self into your Country, where you may expect the Event in safety: for though there be no appearance of any stir, yet I say, they shall receive a terrible Blow this Parliament, and yet they shall not see who hurts them: This Counsel is not to be Contemned, because it may do you good, and can do you no harm; for the danger is past so soon as you have burnt the Letter; and I hope God will give you Grace to make good use of it: To whose Holy Protection I commend you.

This Letter being communicated to the King, he expounds the mystical Blow, to be meant by Gun-powder, and thereupon commanded the Rooms under the Parliament House to be searcht, where the Mystery of Iniquity was quickly discovered, some of the Traytors taken in London, others in the Country, the hands of Justice overtaking them, they became examples of Justice, and tasted of that Cup (though not with that Cruelty) which they intended others should have drank of.

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The British Olive next shall twine,
In Marriage with the German Vine.

By the British Olive, is meant the Lady Elizabeth, Daughter to King James; and by the German Vine, the most Illustrious Prince Frederick, Count Palatine of the Rhine; this Lady Elizabeth was enriched with all the endowments both of Body and Mind, which make to the compleating of a Princess; most dearly beloved of the English, as one that deserved well of all; hear a wit of her Age thus complaining.

Most sweet Elizabeth! that happy Name,
If we lost nothing else by losing thee,
So dear to England is, we are to blame
If without Tears and Sighs we parted be.

They were Married with great Solemnity at Westminster,
February 14, Anno 1612.

The Ninth to Death his Power shall yield.
Death Conquers all, he wins the Field.

This is meant of Prince Henry, who is called the Ninth, in regard that if he had Lived till King James Dyed, he would have been the Ninth King of that Name, since the Conquest: He was a Prince of most excellent parts, not wanting any thing wherewith Nature and Art could enrich him; of a very Pious Disposition, never heard by any alibe to swear an Oath, for which Arch-Bishop Abbot commended him in his Funeral Sermon, the Prince being wont to say, That he knew no Game or Value to be won or lost, that could be worth an Oath. He Dyed of an extraordinary burning Feaver, being generally Lamented of the whole Land.

C H A P. XIV.

The Prophecies of the Reign of King Charles the First, his Marriage with France, the Murder of the Duke of Buckingham, the Scottish Troubles, of the Long Parliament, and Bloody War ensuing after the execrable Murder of the King.

Mother Shipton having proceeded thus far in her Prophecies, broke off abruptly with a deep sigh, the tears trickling down her Cheeks, accompanied with the wringing of her hands, as if some extraordinary mischance had befallen her. The Abbot wondered greatly what should be the cause of so suddain an alteration, having observed all along before a settled composedness in her countenance, and now to break out into such exclamations: He therefore thus said unto her, Mother Shipton, it is more then some ordinary matter which hath made you to break out into this sudden passion, and if it may not be troublesome unto you, I shall desire, that as hitherto you have not been scrupulous in revealing those secrets unto me, which have brought in me both wonder and amazement, so that now you will not so abruptly break off, as to leave me in suspence of the cause of your sorrow; Ah Mr. Abbot (said she) who can with dry Eyes repeat what must next ensue, or but think upon it without a Heart full of Agony, to see Vertue trampled on, and Vice exalted; Beggars on Horse-back, and Princes on Foot; the Innocent Condemned, and the Blood-thirsty go Free. But since my promise binds me to fulfil your request, I shall proceed to here I left.

The Crown then fits the White Kings Head,
Who with the Lillies soon shall wed;
Then shall a Peasants Bloody Knife,
Deprive a great Man of his Life.
Forth from the North shall Mischief blow,
And English Hob shall add thereto.
Then shall the Council great Assemble,
Who shall make great and small to tremble.
Wars shall rage as he were Wood,
And Earth shall drunken be with Blood.
The White King then (O grief to see)
By Wicked Hands shall Murdered be.

[These

These Lines are so plain, relating to the Actions of the late Times, as shall need no Oedipus to explain them; however as we have all a long made several Comments upon her Text, we shall here likewise proceed in the same Method as we did before.

The Crown then fits the White Kings Head.

By the White King, is meant King Charles the First, so called, not only in respect of the purity and uprightness of his Life, signified by White; but also that at the time of his Coronation he was Cloathed in White, which some benemous tongues have since urged against him, That he was not Crowned as other Kings, as if Princes might not have the same liberty as meaner persons, to assume what coloured Garb they list to wear to themselves.

Who with the Lillies soon shall wed.

Somewhat before King James's Death a Marriage was concluded on betwixt Prince Charles, and the Lady Henrietta Maria, Daughter to that Martial Prince Henry the fourth King of France; but before the Consummation thereof, King James Dyed, not long after his Funerals were over, she was brought into England, and solemnly Married to King Charles, who is hereupon said to wed the Lillies, the Lillies being the Armes of France.

Then shall a Peasants Bloody Knife,
Deprive a great Man of his Life.

This is spoken of the Duke of Buckingham, the greatest Man in favour of those times, and thereupon (as it is most commonly seen) most hated of the people; who laid the blame of all miscarriages in the State upon him; right or wrong he was sure to undergo their censure: Being made General for the Relief of Rochel, then Besieged by the French Forces; before he Embarked at Portsmouth, he was most villanously Strabbed by one Felton a discontented Officer in his Army; who was so far from flying for the same, that though he might have passed away undiscovered, he boldly avowed himself to be the Man that did it; alledging, That he had therein done his Country good Service; but before his Death was better principled, and made sensible of the heinousness of the Sin of Murther, recanting his former erroneous principles, and dying very penitently, being Hanged in Chains at Portsmouth, Anno 1627.

Forth from the North shall mischief blow,
And English Nob shall add thereto.

This

This Propheſſe alludes to that Ancient Proverb, From the cold North all ill comes forth; and may be underſtood of our troubles commencing in 1639, taking their original riſe from Scotland, and fomented by ſederal Factious Spirits in England, the Dragon of Preſbytery beginning then to appear in its own colours, the Kirk of Scotland having ſo high an opinion of its own purity, that it participated more of Moſes his platfozm in the Mount, than other Proteſtant Churches, being a Reformed Reformation; ſo that the practice thereof might be diſtorty to others, and ſhe ſet to giſe, not take, wzite, nor receive Copies from any Neighbouring Church; deſiring that all others were like unto them, ſave only in their afflictions. Whereupon they ſtood ſo high upon their pantoffles, that they reſuſed the Common-prayer, diſclaimed their Biſhops, raiſed Tumults, and under pretence of defending the Scotiſh Kirk, raiſed a War againſt the Engliſh State, the venom of which Poyſon ſo infected the veins of the Engliſh, who followed this Scotiſh Preſident, that it brake forth into a moſt bitter War, and ended not, but with the death of many thouſands of people.

Then ſhall the Council great Aſſemble,
Who ſhall make great and ſmall to tremble.

By the great Council is meant the long-laſting Parliament, ſo known to all poſterity, for the remarkable tranſactions therein: It began November the 3d. 1640, and may more properly be ſaid to be the Parliament that wrought Wonders, then that in the time of King Henry the Third, which had the ſame appellation. By them fell the wiſe Stafford, and Reverend Laud, by them was Episcopacy voted down, and Preſbytery voted up; by them was the Common-prayer denyed, and the directoy exalted: they were the firſt that brought that Strange Kiddle into the World, that a Man might Fight for, and againſt his King; by them was the Oath Ex Officio condemned, and the Covenant (far worſe) applauded; in ſum, by them was the Church and State turned topsy turvey; but this cannot be reported of all amongſt them, many of them hated their doings, diſſented from them, and ſuffered by them.

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He ſhall rage as he were wood,
And Earth ſhall drunken be with blood.

To repeat all the Skirmishes, Fights, and Battles that have happened betwixt the Kings and Parliaments Forces, (here intended by this Propheſſe) would of it ſelf require a Volume, in ſome of which, viz. that at Marston-more, eight thouſand Men were killed at a time, ſo that the Earth might well be ſaid to be drunken with their Blood; and which is the more pity, was ſhed by Engliſhmen of one Country, Citizens againſt Citizens, Neighbourſ againſt Neighbourſ, nay, one Kintſman againſt another, and proſecuted with the greateſt vigour that might be, according to that of the Poet.

The highest fury Reigns in Civil War,
And Country-men in Fight moſt Cruel are,

As was verified all a long during our unnatural Civil-War, none holding out with more obſtinacy, fighting more eagerly, nor in the Execution more bloody then they!

The White King then (O grief to ſee)
By wicked hands ſhall Murthered be.

Spoken concerning the execrable Murther of that pious Prince King Charles the Firſt, the moſt renowned for piety, prudence and patience; of all his Contemporazary Princes throughout the whole world; of whom when all is ſaid that can be ſpoken, yet doth all come far ſhort of his deſcribed praiſes: I ſhall therefore ſum up all with this Epitaph made on him by a Learned Pen.

He that can ſpell a Sigh, and read a Tear,
Pronounce amazement, and accent wild Fear:
Having all Grief by Heart; He, only he,
Is fit to Write and Read thy Elegy,
Unvalued Charles! thou art ſo hard a Text,
Write in one Age, not underſtood i'th' Next.

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CHAP. XV.

The Reign of King Charles the Second; the Usurpation of Cromwell; the strange Confusions of a Democrital Government; the Restauration of the King; the great Sickness; the Burning of the City of London.

THe White King Dead, the Wolf shall then,
With Blood possess the Lyons Den,
But Death shall hurry him away,
Confusion shall a while bear sway;
But Fate to England shall restore,
A King to Reign as heretofore.
Mercy, and Justice too, likewise,
He in his time shall exercise.
Great Death in London shall be though
And Men on tops of Houses go.

These Prophecies being all fulfilled in the Demozoy of Man, and so well known unto the World, we shall be the briefer in the explanation of them.

The White King dead, the Wolf shall then,
With Blood possess the Lyons Den.

By the White King (as we said before) is meant King Charles the First; and by the Wolf Oliver Cromwel, so termed by reason of his Bloody disposition; that Beast being judged more greedy and ravenous of all others; and therefore fity resembled to Cromwel, whose ambition was such that he left no means unattempted, until he had got into the Lyons-den, that is to say, until he had attained the sole Government; which being done, he then plucked the Stairs down by which he had mounted, turning the Kump out of doore, making them his Serbants, who were formerly his Masters; exercising his cruelty upon Caballiers, which he deemed double policy, as being thereby rid of his Enemies, and enriching his Followers with their Wealth, though it were in effect but Spurring and Robbery, and proclaimed him to be a Blood-chirsty Tyrant.

But Death shall hurry him away.

Very remarkable was the day in which the Protector dyed, being the Third of September Anno 1658, wherein the Wind was so violent, that it overthrew many Houses, tore up many Trees by the Roots, tumbled down Chimneys, and unroof'd Barns and Stables; but as it is a very ill wind that blows none good, so with all the hurt this Wind did, it made some recompence, in blowing this bloody Tyrant away, which made the people so little sensible of their losses, that they thought their private harms not to stand in competition with this general good.

Confusion shall a while bear sway.

Spoken in respect of the Confusion of Governments we then had: First, a Rump Parliament, then a Protector, next a Rump Parliament again, then a Fools-bauble, called a Committee of safety, afterwards a Rump Parliament again; now thus, then that, a great many Governments, and none good.

But Fate to England shall restore;

A King to Reign as heretofore.

This was fulfilled in the happy Restauration of King Charles the Second, which put a period to all those Oligarchical Confusions, and Restored the Land to its Ancient pristine Government; which till then, groaned under the pressurers of a Company of Mechanical (and therein the worst sort of) Tyrants.

Mercy and Justice too likewise,

He in his time shall exercise.

Of this many are the examples which might be produced; how many, though notorious Delinquents, received to Mercy? Life given to those, who would have taken his Life away; few only suffering, but such whose offences were so Capital, as could not come well within the verge of a Pardon, or stand upon Justification of their former execrable Actions: Such rotten Members deserving to be cut off from the body of the Common-wealth, who otherwise would have been very Obnoxious, and prejudicial to those that were sound.

Great Death in London shall be thought.

Verified by the great Plague in London 1665 (which for number) was the greatest that hath been known in these latter Centuries of years, and which (if not any thing else) might convince our Sectaries, how necessary that Prayer in the Letany is for to be used, From Plague, Pestilence and Famine, good Lord deliver us.

And



And Men on tops of Houses go.

This was suddenly fulfilled in that great Conflagration of Fire, which happened in London, Sept. 2, 3, and 4. Anno 1666. by which so many Houses were destroyed, that Men afterwards in the Ruins went on the tops of those Houses, whose lofty Structures not long before seemed to brave the Skie, and which would dazzle weak eyes to look up and behold the tops of them.

The Fiery year as soon as o're,
Peace shall then be as before.
A Phenix City in strange wise,
Shall out of fatal Ashes rise.

These predictions were exactly accomplish'd by the Peace concluded with the Dutch soon after 1666, called here properly the Fiery year, and the wonderful Rebuilding of the City of London to greater Magnificence then ever in so short a space.

When

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When Mars again unsheaths his Sword,
Your Treacherous Friends small aid afford:
Great noise there shall be heard, great shouts and cries,
And Seas shall Thunder louder than the Skies.

This alludes to the second Dutch war, wherein the French pretended to be Friends to the English, but afforded them small aid, but in truth basely deserted them in the Engagements at Sea, where the Canons were louder than Thunder.

A Boat a Boat, look thwart the Thames,
The Southern-pile is all on Flames.

This can be understood of nothing but the great Fire in Southwark, wherein the best part of the Burrough, which she calls the Southern Pile, was Consumed.

The World's in Arms, and ill at ease,
Another World looks on in Peace.
The happy Isle shall freely Trade,
While Blood and Horror mighty Realms Inade.

This was happily as to England verified in the year 1677. when the only flood looking on in Peace, and enjoyed freedom of Trade, whilst all the rest of Europe were fiercely engaged in War.

The Eagle droops, and Moults his Wings,

And fews arise, with Northern Kings.

Holland is threatned; Spain doth pine,

And Blood shall swell the Rapid Rhine.

This relates to the late Wars between France and the Empire, whose Arms are the Eagle; whereby great Destruction was occasioned on the borders of the Riber Rhine, the Chief seat of that War. And as the two Northern Crowns, Sweden and Denmark were engaged in Arms one against the other, so Holland was much threatned, and the Spanish Territories in the Low-Countries curtail'd and weakened, besides what may yet happen in that kind hereafter.

But when the Orange and the Rose

Unite, beware old Englands Foes.

By the Rose is commonly understood a branch of the Royal English Stem, and by Orange is plainly denoted, his Highness the Prince of that Title; And tho there has been an Inter-Marriage between those Illustrious Families; yet by the Series of things here foretold. It must

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must be Interpreted in this place, to refer to the Match between the present Prince, and the Princess Mary, Eldest Daughter to his Royal Highness the Duke of York; which he foretels shall be of happy consequence to our Nation, in point both of security and advantage, and a great disappointment to the Enemies of England.

In Sixteen Hundred Seventy Eight,
That Corn on which our Horses bait
Shall help preserve a threatned State,
And Truckle-bed, and Horser-ride
A Mass of Villany unhide;
But sturdy doubts abroad are spread,
And each Man believes as he is led.

It is not difficult to accommodate this to the Discovery of the Popish-Plot, 1678. The Names of the three principal Evidence being Hieroglyphically described, viz. Oats, Bedlow, and Prance, and how much their Testimony has been credited by most, and yet disbelieved or doubted of by others, is well known, nor is it our present business to say who is in the right, or who in the wrong.

Confusions now possess the Isle,
And wisest Councils more Embroil.
The Feet by Subtle Arts are led,
To dictate to their Sovereign Head,
Till Royal Jobe exert his Power,
And brings aspiring Rabbi's lower.

He that cannot Interpret this part of the Oracle, without an Oedipus, were best to set forth an Hue and Cry after his Memory and understanding.

Then different furies seek to spoil
The Realm, but justly meet a foil,
The Flame's extinct by help of Oyl.

This apparently Indicates the last Damnable Plot against the Persons of his Sacred Majesty, and his Royal Brother, and the Government; first Discovered most seasonably by a Person that is by Trade an Oyl-man.

A

A Christal-wall there shall be Built
 A thwart the Thames, yet all that Skife,
 Heavens Mystique Language shall be blind,
 And no cause of this wonder find.
 Folks Fish for Toys, instead of Roach,
 And for a ~~w~~berry, call a Coach.

This is a pat description of the late wonderful Frost in December 1683. and January and February 1683, & 84. when the Thames for a whole Month was so Frozen, that not only thousands of people daily pass'd over, but whole streets were built, where all sorts of Toys were sold, Coaches continually ply'd on the Ice, between the Temple and Westminster as in the Streets, Bulls were baited, an whole Ore Roasted on the Thames, &c. which as no Age could parrallel, so it was observed that this extraordinary Frost was so far from being foretold by any of our vulgar Astrologers, who pretend to be deep Learners in Heavens books, that on the contrary, they all the while generally promised fine moderate temperate weather.

But before this, Danubius streams,
 Shall be more strait-lac'd then the Thames.
 The Crescent does the Eagle threaten,
 But is thrasht home, severely beaten;
 For the pole-star at last appears,
 And an All-conquering Banner rears.

The Imperial City Vienna, situate on the River Danow, (in Latine called Danubius) was Besieged towards the latter end of the year 1683. by two hundred thousand Turks; (whose Arms are the Crescent or Half-Moon encreasing) under the Command of the Grand Vizier, but after a most Gallant and long resistance, the Infidels by the coming up of the Polish Army, under the most renowned King Sobieski; (called here by way of allusion; the Pole-star) join'd with the United Forces of the Empire, were forc'd to raise their Siege, being vanquish'd in Battle, and pursued towards Turkey with almost incredible slaughter.

Here follows some other Prophecies which because they seem to concern future Resolutions, we shall leave the Interpretation to time, and the Intelligent Reader.

I.

When ~~Lybers~~ brackish streams Combine,
To mix their Waters with the Slime,
And both do strive to stop the ~~Rhyne~~,
Cedars shall stoop to Court the Vine.

II.

After thick Clouds, the Welkin clears,
And Albion long Night-mar'd with fears,
With a Serener look appears. }
Let her be Loyal and quiet at home,
And then despise the Arts of Hell and Rome.

III.

Wait but a while, and the long Floating Ark,
Arrives, and Shipwracks ~~Peters~~ forged Barque.
The Scarlet Strumpet that so rag'd with Ire,
Shall see her putrid Flesh consum'd with Fire.
The disbranch'd Olive join'd to Yewes-root,
Brings forth on Jordans plains redoubled Fruit.

IV.

Now fond Opinions Vanish, Factions cease,
And the World snugs in Universal Peace.
From Heaven ~~Astra~~ returns, and doth possess
All ~~Japhets~~ spreading Sons with Happiness.
Swords turn'd to Plow-shears, all that was amiss
Remov'd, gives place unto a general Bliss,
But who, O who! shall Live, when God doth this. }

Whether Mother Shipton were certainly the Author of all these last Propheetic Lines, is hard to say, but for ought we can find, she Lived to an extraordinary Age, and tho she was generally believed to be a Witch, yet Multitudes that either Read or heard her Prophecies, have had a great esteem for them, and her Memory to this day is much Honoured by those of her own Country.

An Account of Mr. HOLWELLS late Predictions, concerning the Turk, Pope, and French King, &c.

Amongst all that in this Age have adventured to publish Predictions touching Future grand events, one Mr. JOHN HOLWELL (a Person that by his Writings seems not meanly vers'd in Astrology and Calculations) has with most assurance set forth his Conceptions, especially touching great Events to be made by the Turks upon Christendome, dangers impending the Potent and now Flourishing Monarchy and Realm of France. The Destruction of Rome, and the Pope, &c. Wherefore to gratifie the Readers Curiosity (without obliging his Faith) I shall here subjoin a brief Abstract of some of his Prognostications.

In his Appendix to his Catastrophe Mundi, having assigned the Nadir of the Mightie Turkish Monarchy, to a Conjunction of Saturn and Jupiter in Aquary, Anno 1285. and comparing therewith the late Conjunctions of those two Superiour Planets in 1682. and 1683. He proceeds p. 19. to give his judgment in these words.

Those

Those places will first have their share of Suffering, that are under Aquarius, amongst which let Galachia and the South-part of Poland beware; neither shall Austrobia be free, but shall taste of the bitter Cup that is allotted for Europe to taste. Mars making of his long transit in Libra, tells us, that Austria shall be much wasted, and the people thereof brought very low, and a great part of them will be carried Captive, and their great Town Vienna will go near to be lost.

All this was literally fulfilled last Summer, but by Gods Gracious providence the City of Vienna, (when reduced to the utmost extremity) was Reliev'd, and the Infidels beat off with great Slaughter, and pursued towards their own Territories, by the Victorious King of Poland; wherby 'tis hoped all the Subsequent Witches by this Author threatned, may be prevented, tho' he seems of quite another Opinion: for thus he goes on,

Poland shall be much wasted by both Turk and Tartar, for this Conjunction is in square to the Eleventh House of that Kings Election, and the Eclipses fall in the Second. And Mercury Lord of the Seventh House at the time of his Election, is in this Eclipse in square to his Tenth. And Mars Lord of the Tenth, is in Libra weak. This bids Poland to be very careful how he doth go to War during the time that this Conjunction is allotted to Operate, which will be near Twenty Years, for if he doth fall out with either Turk or Tartar he must expect to gain nothing but the Devastation of his Fruitful Country, with the destruction of his People, if not the hazard of the Crown, and Dignity of that Potent Kingdome.

Page 21. We find these words; This Triple Conjunction being in Leo, falls in square to Scorpio, this doth bid the Duke of Savaria look to his Country, for the Turk is like to Invade him with a very great Army, and will lay waste a great part of his Territories, and joyn it to the rest of his

Conquest. And ~~Spain~~ being posited in ~~Spain~~, at the first time of the three Conjunctions, doth fore-shew that the Dukedome of ~~Wittenburge~~, shall have the ~~Turks~~ to range in its Bowels; At which time the Crown of ~~France~~ will begin to shake for fear, and wish that he was a little further from him; but it will be in vain, for the ~~Turk~~ will Invade his new Conquest in ~~Altitia~~, and from thence pass through ~~Lorraine~~ into ~~France~~, and take ~~Burgundy~~ in the twinkling of an Eye. All the United Provinces submit to his protection, without being Invaded, and by so doing save their Country from Fire and Sword. And at the same time the ~~Turk~~ is so Victorious in the ~~South-West~~ parts of ~~Germany~~. Another part of his vast great Army will Range in the ~~North~~, and in the ~~North-West~~ parts thereof, and pass through ~~Bohemia~~, and enter ~~Franconia~~, and from thence he will Invade both higher and lower ~~Saxony~~, even as far as the ~~North~~ parts thereof. It will seem strange to hear that the ~~Turk~~ should be got so far into ~~Germany~~ as ~~Westphalia~~, and the Country of ~~Juliers~~, but so it will be, and ~~Gods Will~~ must be done.

Page 26. He again tells us, That the Kingdome of ~~France~~ shall not escape the hands of the ~~Turk~~, for he will lay waste a great many of its Flourishing Cities, but that it shall be occasioned by its own Subjects, who will Rebel and Invite in the ~~Turk~~, &c.

After which, decanting on the ~~Stability~~ of his most Christian Majesty, he tells us that about August 1683, his attendant was directed to the body of ~~Mars~~, whence he predicts many miseries and personal hazards, and particular mentions that the said French Monarchy shall be subject to have dangerous Falls from Horse-back.

Which last, about that time was so far verified, that his said Majesty had a Fall from his Horse and broke or dislocated his Arm.

He proceeds to threaten that great Prince in the year 1684. and for seven years after (if he shall so long live) with great and various Infirmities, but in such a stile, as (for the Respect due to all Crowned Heads) I shall forbear to repeat.

Such more modest was that presage of Mr. Lilly's delivered long since, viz. In the year 1672. at which time the French King made his first attempt upon Holland, viz.

A certain kind of astonishment shall surprize an active potentate of Europe, seeing neither his actions of War or Peace, succeed according to his projected expectations; For he may know that there is an over-ruling power that can contradict all Politick Councils when not grounded upon Equity; And this he ought to remember, that he is not the Man ordained to give Laws to his Neighbouring Nations.

But to return to Mr. Holwell, Page 29. we find these words; Neither will Spain be free from great Calamity, for he must strike his Sail to that Mighty Monarch the Ottoman Emperour. And thou, Oh Italy! hast a great share of this Cup of Gods Wrath; for great will be the scarcity that will be in thy Fruitful Countrey, and an universal Plague will over-spread thy Territories, and the Turk will destroy with Fire and Sword a great part of thy Famous Towns and Cities; And he will come even to the Gates of Rome, and Sack it, as bad as the Gauls did, and will keep possession, and destroy it with Fire, and strew Salt upon it, then will the Pope be forced to Fly from place to place, and soon after will there be no more such Cattle in the World.

I have recited these Sayings, because they are delivered with so much assurance, to the end, that if the Authour shall be found mistaken, People may learn not to be dismay'd with such bold and vain Prognostications, and that all Artists may hence forwards express themselves with greater Caution and Modesty, for the God Governs Inferiour by Superiours, and the

the Stars may seem to denounce such or such Judgments or Calamities impending, yet oft-times the Astrologer is mistaken in Reading the Characters of Heaven; and at other times as God will reserves an over-ruling power to himself, so after the Denunciation of Judgments it comes to pass, that by the obduracy and growing wickedness, or the Repentance or amendment of a Nation or People, the said Judgments are bated, aggravated, and rendred more sharp, or on the other side, protracted, alleivated, remitted, and sometime wholly removed; and therefore the best way will be, without too much amusing our selves about things future, to apply our selves to our present Duties, and to leave secret things to God, who only truly knows them; for the understanding of Man is beitt'd, and most of his Predictions are but Dreams and Fancies, the Old Proverb being most true.

'Mongst all that Foretelling Professe,
He's the best Prophet, best can guesse.

F I N I S.



The Prophecy.

When One, and Six, and Eight, are Joynd to Four,
Then England do's a grievous Loss deplore,
Her setting Sun, makes many watry Eyes,
Whilſt C. goes down, and J. in place do's Rise.

The Explanation.

This plainly Intimates the Year 1624. In which King Charles M. Died on the 23rd of February, whose Death caus'd a general Sorrow; and this is likewise Intimated by C's going down, and J's rising in his Place; as his being Succeeded by King James.

The Prophecy.

Now Rome is pleas'd, and Laughs aloud,
Her Locusts into Albion croud;
The Popish Brother gains his wish,
And at the Laws, do's make a pish;
Thinks all sure, but time will come,
When he again must pack from home.

The Explanation.

This Intimates the late King's coming to the Crown, and the Encouragement Popery (as the 102nd of Rome) found under him: by the stocking of the Locusts, is meant, the Friars, Monks and Jesuits, who came in Swarms into this Land, as well Strangers as Native, but the latter and many of what afterwards ensued, viz. his second going out of the Kingdom.

The Prophecy.

When 5 is joyn'd with 4, and 6, and 8,

Such fits you'll bear, what Mischief will create,

Wild Tumults of a War's rumour'd round,

But it the unhappy Authors do's Confound

Grand

Grand Councils back the Lyon to go on,
 Till M. and A. and many are undone :
 The Gown more cruel than the Sword do's prove,
 No Tears, nor Cries, can any pity move,
 Both Scots and English sadly feel the blow,
 And suffer in their Leaders Overthrow.

The Explanation.

This directly points at the Invasion of the Duke of Monmouth and C. of Argyle, in the Year 1685. which Date is made out in the first Line, and the two Letters of their Titles let down ; also the Slaughter and Execution of a great number of their partakers who suffered in Scotland and England ; especially upon Jeffery's cruel Expedition into the West, where about 400,000 Country-men and others, were Hanged up at divers Places, and being Quartered, their Quarters were set upon Poles all along the Road-sides, &c.

The Prophecy.

Made Proud by late Success, now I shew like,
 I do's drive on, and at Religion strike ;
 To ancient Laws, there now is no regard,
 But he that can supplant 'em has reward.
 To throw the Church down, he the Pillars Tries,
 But not like Sampson, gains his Enterprize :
 They stand too firm to be remov'd,
 And by the People are belov'd ;
 So that in this, he'll lose his hope,
 To please himself, and more the Pope.

The Explanation.

This points at the Disorders of the late Reign, when Popery was coming in by Head and Shoulders, but thrust out against Arle back-wards, by the Opposition it found to Establish itself. The Pillars mentioned in it, seems to signify the Seven Bishops, who were Imprisoned in the Tower by King James, and afterward Tryed

The Life and Death of Mother Shipton.

Tried at the King's Bench-Bar, batelz for presenting him with a
Perdition for shew these Reasons, why they could not read his Decla-
ration, for Liberty of Conscience, in Churches, during Divine
Service.

Then the Prophecy.

How strange News is tumoured abroad, to the great Terror
and Affrightment of many, but to the Joy and Comfort of others:
Those that had late deep designs to ruine others, meet with strong
disappointments, and in the midst of their Security, are utterly
frustrated: The English Mastiffs get the Scent of the Pope's
Bulls, and run open Mouth'd to Bait them. The Locust are swept
away, and many Superstitious Structures are demolished; old
England stands up for her Rights and Privileges, and those
that went about to destroy them, sink under their weight.

The Explanation.

This shewes the strange Consternation of the Papists and such as
had made it their business to undermine and destroy the Constitu-
tion of the Government: The Mastiffs here signify the Mob, or
Multitude, who all along Opposed the setting up the Mass-Houses,
and in the end, utterly demolished them; the rest is very plain to
be understood.

The Prophecy.

Now Albion Groaning under great distress,
From Eastern Lands a Prince brings her redress:
Eclence of Orange makes her seas to faint,
And giveth strength to shake off her restraint;
Now Helter-Skelter, her Oppressors fly,
Pardons, Indulgences, bids Gosses scatter'd lye:
And freed from Thrall by's Courage and Renown,
Two willing Nations do present their Crowns;
Whilst those who lately did aspire so high,
More scar'd than Hurr, do into Cells fly.

The Explanation.

This intimates the Delivery of our Nation from Popery and Slavery, by the coming of an Eastern Prince, which points directly at his present Majesty, seeing Holland his Native Country from whence he came is Easterly, favourable to Rescue us when Popery was fast breaking in upon us, and for his Valour, Honour and Renown, had the Crowns of England and Scotland conferred upon him by Unanimous Consent, and with great Applause.

The Prophecy.

Now Traque begins to bluster, but soon
You'll hear his Tone with Henry's Bone;
And made to smart for all the Spoils he took,
A King do's come, who almost with a look
Scares the Hibernians, and makes them to submit
Unto such Terms, as he to give thinks fit;

So a long Harras'd Land from War does Cease,
The Conquering Sword, both brings and gives them Peace.

The Explanation.

This points directly at the reducing of the Irish in Rebellion, by King William, and restoring that Kingdom to Peace and Tranquillity, after the Mischief it had suffered.

The Prophecy.

Now Gallia Frowns, but yet her Threats are vain,
That Tyrant shall by Wars great Loss sustain;
The British Tyger with his angry Paws,
Shall tear the Lillies, and give Nations Laws;
While the World wonders for to see it done,
And him who Tyranniz'd, for shelter run;
The Time is near when Nations shall Combine
To Pull Him down, who do's their Neck Design.

The Explanation.

Gallia is the ancient Latin Name of France: The British Lyon signifies the Power and Strength of these Kingdoms, and its grasping and tearing the Lillies, which are the proper Arms of France, denotes some great Conquests to be gained in that Country, by the undaunted Valour and Conduct of the English, and hints at the Flight of the present French King; but for the more certain event of its coming to pass, that we leave to Time to make out, and with it an Infallible Prediction.

The Prophecy.

When the Eagle and the Lyon shall Combine,
In League with others of the Royal Line;

Then he who Universal Monarchy

So long has Aim'd at, shall Defeated be;

His Pride shall humble to the very Dust,

And he shall see what 'tis to be Unjust;

By a strong Purge, he shall be forc'd to cast

Up all that he has swallowed down in haste.

Then like the Crow, who others Feathers had,

When he is stripp'd of them, his case is bad.

The Explanation.

The Eagle is the Arms of the Empire, as the Lyon is part of that of England: Those Nations being now in League together, with many other Confederate Princes against the French King, that common Disturber of the Peace of Christendom, who is seem'd here to be Aim'd at, and that he will be very greatly humbled, and be forc'd to restore what he has Unjustly and Unjustly taken from his Neighbours, or else expect a very great Downfall and Eclipse of his Grandeur.

The Prophecy.

Old Merlin has, as well as I, foretold, that
 That sea-walker shall in Fame still hold his
 The first of Places, and a Scepter sway,
 That shall give Laws, and others make obey,
 The Proud France shall cruckle; whereas Prince shall rise
 In Albion; Vertuous, Valiant, Just, and Wise,
 Whose Courage courts, and much delights in War,
 Who borrows not, but fetches Fame from far,
 True British Vertue, he revives in Men,
 Makes them at once, now Valiant grow again
 Under his Reign, the Fates Decree Encrease,
 Conquests Abroad, which ends in happy Peace.

The Explanation.

This seems to be hinted on the present Times and Affairs,
 under His Majesty's Propitious and Prosperous Reign and Go-
 vernment; his happy Valour and Conduct, like a presaging
 Comet, residing in Terror, as it were over proud France, to
 humble, and bring low that Aspiring Monarch, who has firew-
 ed so many Lands with Blood and Devastation, and after great
 Achievements, it hints at a settled and happy Peace.

F I N I S.



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